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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-19 are pending in this application. The Examiner has withdrawn from consideration claims 4-6, 9, 11, 17, and 19. By this Amendment, Applicant AMENDS claim 1.

Applicant greatly appreciates the Examiner's indication that claim 7 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the features of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider and allow claims 4-6, 9, 11, 17, and 19 when the Examiner allows generic claim 1.

Claims 1, 2, 14-16, and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Person et al. (U.S. 5,880,662). Claims 3, 10, and 12-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Person et al. Applicant notes that the Examiner has rejected claims 14-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner clarify whether claims 14-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) or 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections of claims 1-3, 10, 12-16, and 18.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite:

"A laminated inductor comprising:
a laminated body including a plurality of insulation layers and a plurality of coil conductor patterns having at least one turn and being stacked on each other in a lamination direction with the insulation layers being disposed therebetween; wherein
the plurality of coil conductor patterns are electrically connected to define a coil, the plurality of coil conductor patterns of the coil includes at least a first kind and a second kind of the coil conductor patterns, and **the first kind of the coil conductor patterns has a different number of turns and a different width from the second kind of the coil conductor patterns; and**
said first kind and said second kind of the coil conductor patterns are connected in series." (emphasis added)

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Applicant's claim 1 recites the features of "the first kind of the coil conductor patterns has a different number of turns and a different width from the second kind of the coil conductor patterns." With the improved features of claim 1, Applicant has been able to provide a laminated inductor in which the degree of design freedom is very high and outstanding characteristics can be easily obtained (see, for example, the first full paragraph on page 2 of the Specification).

Applicant has amended claim 1 to recite the features of "the first kind of the coil conductor patterns has a different number of turns and a different width from the second kind of the coil conductor patterns" (emphasis added). Person et al. clearly teaches in **Figs. 3 and 6** that the different coil conductor patterns have the same width, **NOT** that the different coil conductor patterns have different widths as recited in Applicant's claim 1. Thus, Person et al. fails to teach or suggest the feature of "the first kind of the coil conductor patterns has a different number of turns and a different width from the second kind of the coil conductor patterns" as recited in Applicant's claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Person et al.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that none of the prior art of record, applied alone or in combination, teaches or suggests the unique combination and arrangement of elements recited in claim 1 of the present application. Claims 2, 3, 7, 8, 10, 12-16, 18, and 19 depend upon claim 1 and are therefore allowable for at least the reasons that claim 1 is allowable. As noted above, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider and allow claims 4-6, 9, 11, 17, and 19 upon allowing generic claim 1.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are solicited.

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The Commissioner is authorized to charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1353.

Respectfully submitted,

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